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Ellen J. Kapinos

GI 5288B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : LaVallie and Racie

Serial No. : 08/949,904

Examiner : S. Ungar

Filed : October 15, 1997

Group Art Unit : 1640

For : HUMAN SDF-5 PROTEIN AND COMPOSITIONS

March 7, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

LETTER

This is in response to telephone messages from Examiner Susan Ungar on March 4 and 5, 2002 to the undersigned attorney. The Examiner requested that Applicants transmit by facsimile the amendment to claim 20 which was filed with the USPTO on October 27, 1999. This amendment was apparently not entered and a later filed amendment to claim 20 dated July 16, 2001 was entered. Therefore, as requested by the Examiner, Applicants are resubmitting the amendment to claim 20 originally submitted October 27, 1999.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

(Amended) 20. A composition for the formation and/or maintenance of chondrocyte and/or cartilaginous tissue in a patient in need of same comprising a therapeutic amount of the human SDF-5 protein according to claim 19.

REMARKS

Claim 20 has been amended to include the phrase "for the formation and/or maintenance of chondrocyte and/or cartilaginous tissue in a patient in need of same". As set forth in the